

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

- 1 1. A method comprising the steps of:  
2 starting an log file parser on each server of a set of servers in a distributed  
3 information processing environment;  
4 retrieving usage information from a database file generated by said log file parser;  
5 and  
6 generating preselected usage statistical information from said usage information  
7 from said database file.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:  
2 closing a current log file;  
3 reading said log file; and  
4 generating said database file in response to said log file.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of starting a next log file.
- 1 4. The method of claim 2 wherein said steps of closing said current log file, reading  
2 said log file, and generating said database file are performed by said log file parser.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein said steps of launching a log file parser, retrieving  
2 usage information from a database file, and generating preselected usage statistical  
3 information are repeated for each server in said distributed information processing  
4 system.
- 1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein said steps of launching a log file parser, retrieving  
2 usage information from a database file, and generating preselected usage statistical  
3 information are repeated for each server in said distributed information processing system  
4 are performed by a shell script.

- 1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein said log file comprises an log file maintained by a  
2 directory server.

1 8. A computer program product embodied in a machine-readable storage medium,  
2 the program product comprising programming instructions for performing the steps of:  
3 starting an log file parser on each server of a set of servers in a distributed  
4 information processing environment;  
5 retrieving usage information from a database file generated by said log file parser;  
6 and  
7 generating preselected usage statistical information from said usage information  
8 from said database file.

1 9. The program product of claim 8 further comprising programming instructions for  
2 performing the steps of:  
3 closing a current log file;  
4 reading said log file; and  
5 generating said database file in response to said log file.

1 10. The program product of claim 9 further comprising programming instructions for  
2 performing the step of starting a next log file.

1 11. The program product of claim 9 wherein said steps of closing said current log file,  
2 reading said log file, and generating said database file are performed by said log file  
3 parser.

1 12. The program product of claim 8 further comprising programming instructions for  
2 repeating the steps of launching a log file parser, retrieving usage information from a  
3 database file, and generating preselected usage statistical information for each server in  
4 said distributed information processing system.

1 13. The program product of claim 8 wherein programming instructions for performing  
2 said steps of launching a log file parser, retrieving usage information from a database file,  
3 and generating preselected usage statistical information are repeated for each server in  
4 said distributed information processing system comprise a shell script.

- 1 14. The program product of claim 8 wherein said log file comprises an log file  
2 maintained by a directory server.

1 15. A data processing system comprising a plurality of servers, at least one of said  
2 plurality of servers including:

3 circuitry operable for starting an log file parser on each server of a set of said  
4 plurality of servers in a distributed information processing environment;

5 circuitry operable for retrieving usage information from a database file generated  
6 by said log file parser; and

7 circuitry operable for generating preselected usage statistical information from  
8 said usage information from said database file.

1 16. The data processing system of claim 15 wherein at least one of said plurality of  
2 servers comprises:

3 circuitry operable for closing a current log file;

4 circuitry operable for reading said log file; and

5 circuitry operable for generating said database file in response to said log file.

1 17. The data processing system of claim 16 wherein at least one of said plurality of  
2 servers further comprises circuitry operable for starting a next log file.

1 18. The data processing system of claim 16 wherein said circuitry operable for closing  
2 said current log file, reading said log file, and generating said database file comprises  
3 circuitry operable in response to said log file parser.

1 19. The data processing system of claim 15 further comprising circuitry operable for  
2 repeating said launching a log file parser, retrieving usage information from a database  
3 file, and generating preselected usage statistical information for each of said set of servers  
4 in said distributed information processing system.

1 20. The data processing system of claim 15 wherein said circuitry operable for  
2 launching a log file parser, retrieving usage information from a database file, and  
3 generating preselected usage statistical information are repeated for each server in said  
4 distributed information processing system is operable in response to a shell script.

- 1 21. The data processing system of claim 15 wherein at least one server of said  
2 plurality of servers includes circuitry operable for providing directory services, and  
3 wherein said log file comprises an log file maintained by said directory services.